

Welcome

December 2, 2018

We're glad you're here! You are invited to fill out a blue welcome card from the pew rack and place it in the offering basket. Please don't feel obligated to donate during our offering.

This Week

Today:

8:45 am Morning Prayer - Rm 2
9:30 am Worship
NOON All involved in JOJ should arrive by noon.
1:00-6:00 pm **JOURNEY OF JOY! Help needed to take down, box up, and clean up JOJ around 7:30 pm**

Mon:

6:30 pm Prayer Group
6:55 pm Women's Bible Study Fellowship

Tues:

7:00 pm Elders

Wed:

6:30 pm GEMS

Fri:

6:30 pm STIR Ugly Christmas Sweater Party

Sat.

12:00 pm Seniors Christmas Luncheon

Prayer Commitment - Mwaya & Munyiva W, Africa

Mark your Calendar:

Dec. 16 10:45am Congregational Meeting

Our Church Family

"Thanks to everyone for your prayers, calls, cards of encouragement and wishing me a speedy recovery. My shoulder surgery went very well. Pain is minimal at this time and I'm eagerly am looking forward to physical therapy for complete range of motion." Bob D

Announcements

Due to Journey of Joy setup:

Nursery is in Room 2.

The Library is closed. Return materials to the basket in the outer office. *No Church School, choir, or coffee today.* Come back for your coffee & cookies at JOJ!

A Congregational Meeting to ask for budget approval will be held Sunday, Dec. 16 after church. The Proposed 2019 Budget is in mailboxes.

Sunday School classes grades 1-8 should stay in the sanctuary immediately after the worship service next Sunday, December 9, to practice for the nativity program. **WOW children** will be brought upstairs after the service and may be picked up in the sanctuary after practice.

STIR is hosting an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party this Friday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 pm. There will be snacks, games, fellowship, and fantastically festive ugly sweaters! Our Kids Zone will have food, crafts, and activities for the younger ones as well. There will be prizes for the ugliest sweaters, so if you're in your 20's and 30's, please join us!

We are very excited to have Jennifer K serving as our Worship Director. Please feel free to reach out to her with any questions you may have.

Upcoming Worship Services

Dec 9 *What to Expect when You're Expecting* Series:

2nd Sun. of Advent: "Expect God's Patience" 2 Peter 3:1-15a

Dec 16 3rd Sun. of Advent: "Expect Godlessness" 2 Timothy 3:1-17

Worship Service: 9:30 am

Dec. 2, 2018

Message Notes

Advent: What to Expect When You are Expecting

Matthew 24: Expect Birth Pains

Prelude

- *God's Greeting
- *We Greet Each Other

Call to Worship
Advent Reading - HOPE candle
*Song of Praise: *Even So Come*

Children's Message
(Children age 3-K leave for Walk-Out Worship downstairs;
guests welcome!)

Prayer of Illumination
Bible Reading: Matthew 24:1-14 (page 1538)
Message: *What to Expect When You're Expecting Series:*
'Expect Birth Pains'

Prayer
*Song of Response: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* (#329)

Announcements
Prayers of the People

Offering: Calvin College – a **Christian academic community in
Grand Rapids, MI supported by the Christian Reformed Church**

- *Blessing
- *Sending Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* (#328 v.1,6)

Message: Pastor Chris P

What do you expect?

- +*Pregnancy* is the dominant image today as we begin Advent.
- *Do you tend to see the world as pregnant with the promises of God?

+Pregnancy is a mixed physical & emotional experience, we cannot control life, but we can be prepared.

Matthew 24 Before the birth of God's new world, some old things will go.

God's people are often at a crossroads of clinging to the old traditions or welcoming the newness that God offers.

- *Do you expect (welcome, prepare) newness from God?

Be expectant, not alarmed

+Jesus tells his disciples: keep a cool head. Keep faith and hope. Stand firm but don't stand still?

- *How would we follow this command/invitation today?

+An interesting metaphor—We are **midwives** to the New Creation God promises to birth.

"I've kept still for a very long time.

I've been silent and restrained myself.

Like a woman in labor I will moan;

I will pant, I will gasp." -Isaiah 42:14

Opportunities to Serve

Today

Greeters & coffee servers

Grace W
Carrie W
Alice W

Next week

Doug & Kim W
George & Jane Z
Gwen A

Roving & after church

Bob D
Dave V
Jan V

Bill G
Sheryl R
Glenda V

Ushers

Bill B
John D
Tom V

Alex H
Ken H
Val H

Nursery

Val H
Al H
Anna T

Kim G
Sue H
Eva B

Walk-out worship

Nancy T
Hannah V

Roberta K
Austen K

Librarian

closed (JOJ)

Penny D

Coffee setup – Dec

Ken H
Val H

Open & close church –Dec

Mark T
Jim D

Offerings: Last week

General Fund
PASS

Next week

All God's Children - Hogar

Nov. 18:

General Fund
CRC Chaplaincy & Care



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